

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1064

By Fowler

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Linda Fowler and Allison Fowler for their many contributions to good government, especially the legislative branch, in Tennessee.

WHEREAS, David Fowler has been and is a blessed man; and

WHEREAS, that blessing is due to the mercy and grace of God, who has brought blessed people into his life; and

WHEREAS, two people who have blessed David Fowler's life beyond measure are his wife, Linda Parker Fowler, and his daughter, Allison Elizabeth Fowler; and

WHEREAS, encouraged by the wife of the minister who was to later marry them, David Fowler invited Linda on a date that would forever change his life for the good; and

WHEREAS, on November 5, 1976, David Fowler had the most wonderful first date of his life with Linda, proudly being seen in the mall that evening with the most beautiful woman who had ever lived, enjoying even a lousy Liza Minnelli movie because she was with him, and thinking at the end of the evening that she was the kind of person with whom he could spend his life; and

WHEREAS, the blessing of God represented in the beauty, kindness, gentleness, patience, forbearance, and spiritual sensitivity of Linda became a permanent part of David Fowler's life on June 20, 1981; and

WHEREAS, Linda has been a ready and consistent source of blessing and encouragement to her husband for almost 25 years; and

WHEREAS, their marriage has been a story of how God can knit two hearts together during challenging times in order to overcome those challenges; and

WHEREAS, in fact, the years have provided a reservoir of proof of God's love for them from which they can draw in years to come; and

WHEREAS, the faith and confidence in God that Linda has shown by her unflinching encouragement of her husband to move beyond his own fears to pursue changes in his career, even at this late date in life, have blessed him beyond measure; and

WHEREAS, Linda has been a model of devotion, love, and care for both David and their daughter, Allison, demonstrating to her and to all who have known her the inestimable value in God's economy of a wife and mother; and

WHEREAS, on January 22, 1988, Linda gave birth to a special gift from God, their daughter, Allison; and

WHEREAS, Allison has brought blessing into the life of her father through a tender, sensitive, and compassionate heart, one that is quick to forgive her father's many faults and not hold them against him; and

WHEREAS, Allison has a sharp wit and sense of humor that adds laughter to their home; and

WHEREAS, her father has been blessed to watch Allison use the talents God has given her to excel at many things; and

WHEREAS, Allison has blessed her father even by the challenges that come with parenting a teenager, in that she has helped him to see himself and God more clearly, made his faith in God deeper and the reality and greatness of His love more real, and given him opportunity to learn in new ways what it means to really love someone; and

WHEREAS, Allison has blessed her father in the last year by allowing him to engage in long philosophical and theological ramblings without exhibiting the scorn and disinterestedness typical of many teenagers and has contributed to those conversations in ways that are meaningful; and

WHEREAS, Linda and Allison have been a blessing to David Fowler by standing by him and defending him when the challenges of political office have brought their hurts and doubts; and

WHEREAS, they both have given much and foregone much by having a husband and father who has been out of town so much and who has too often had little left to give to them in return; and

WHEREAS, by himself, David Fowler is not able to express adequately the gratitude and thanksgiving due to Linda and Allison for the blessings they have brought to him; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that their praises be proclaimed and their deeds above expressed be forever remembered; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and commend Linda Fowler and Allison Fowler for the contributions they have made to the State of Tennessee through their love for, devotion to, and support of David Fowler during his twelve years of legislative service and express to them our best wishes for God's blessing in all their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.